

Application Serial No. 09/316,735
Further in response to Office Action of December 30, 2002

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim 6 is amended for formal reasons.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 27-29, 36, 37, and 39 are amended herein to recite the disposition of the first and second windings in terms of their arrangement relative to one another, rather than relative to a printed circuit board or other substrate. In particular, the first winding is recited to be disposed in a first plane, while the second winding is recited to be disposed in a second plane proximate and parallel to the first plane.

Applicants respectfully submit that this is at least implicitly supported by the disclosure. For example, Applicants reference page 2, lines 14-16 of the specification. Therein, it is disclosed that the invention comprises "first and second windings deposited on opposed sides of a printed circuit board".

Printed circuit boards commonly are made in the form of a thin, flat sheet of material. Given such a configuration, the two opposed sides of the printed circuit board thus define first and second parallel planes, spaced apart by the thickness of the printed circuit board.

Thus, the present invention as described implicitly defines first and second planes, corresponding to the opposed sides of the printed circuit board. The first winding is disclosed to be on one side of the printed circuit board, and thus is disposed in the first plane. Similarly, the second winding is disclosed to be on an opposed side of the printed circuit board, and thus is disposed in the second plane.

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In addition, for a thin sheet of material the distance between first and second planes defined by opposed sides of that sheet is small. Thus, structures disposed in those first and second planes may be described as being proximate one another.

Applicants respectfully submit that embodiments that lack a printed circuit board between the windings are within the scope of the disclosure for the present invention. Indeed, Figures 1(a) through 1(e), which illustrate exemplary transformers, do not illustrate the presence of a printed circuit board.

As an example, embodiments might be constructed wherein the first winding is on a first substrate, and the second winding is on a second substrate, with the first and second substrates held parallel but proximate. In such an arrangement, it would not be necessary for a printed circuit board (or indeed any other substrate or structure) to be disposed between the two windings.

It is emphasized that such an arrangement is noted herein for exemplary purposes only; embodiments of the present invention lacking a printed circuit board between the first and second windings may include, but are not limited to, the arrangement previously described. In addition, Applicants note that reciting the first and second windings in terms of their arrangement relative to one another does not necessarily exclude embodiments with a printed circuit board or other substrate disposed between the windings.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the disclosure of first and second windings deposited on opposed sides of a printed circuit board constitutes implicit disclosure of first and second windings disposed in first and second planes, those planes being proximate and parallel. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that reciting such an arrangement in those terms does not constitute the addition of new matter.

Claims 3-8, 27-29, and 36-46 are pending in the application. No new matter has been added.

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In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the pending claims in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

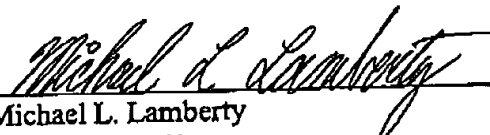
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Michael L. Lamberty (Reg. No. 50,760) at (612) 336-4789, or Applicant's primary attorney-of record, Michael D. Schumann (Reg. No. 30,422), at (612) 336-4638.

Respectfully submitted,



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